UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/49/L.10
21 October 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 25

THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Nigeria, Norway, Senegal and Uganda: draft resolution

Regional conference on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region

The General Assembly,

Having again considered the item entitled "The situation in Burundi",

Recalling its resolution 48/17 of 3 November 1993 concerning the situation in Burundi,

Recalling also the measures taken by the Security Council, in particular the dispatch of a mission to Burundi, and the statements of the President of the Council of 25 October 1993, 16 November 1993, 29 July 1994, 25 August 1994 and 21 October 1994,

Noting the effective action taken by the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Burundi,

Noting also the important role played by the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and his Special Representative for Burundi,

Welcoming the deployment in Burundi of an international observer mission under the procedures of the Organization of African Unity for the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts in Africa,

Taking note with satisfaction that Burundi's registered political parties have resolved to have recourse to dialogue and negotiation in the search for lasting solutions to the institutional problems, on the basis of equity, justice and law and an unshakable will to live in peace,

Noting with satisfaction the signing, on 10 September 1994 at Bujumbura, of the Agreement embodying a Convention on Governance between the forces for democratic change (Presidential majority) and the opposition political parties,

Profoundly concerned about the large-scale and uncontrolled population movements, including armed groups, which constitute a serious threat to the peace and security of the whole subregion,

In pursuance of resolution 48/118 of 20 December 1993, which advocates assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa,

Concerned about the continuing violence and violations of human rights in the country,

Welcoming in this connection the action of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and of the office which he has established in Burundi,

Taking duly into account resolution CM/Res.1527 (LX) on the holding of a regional conference on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixtieth regular session held in Tunis from 6 to 11 June 1994, and endorsed by the heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity,

Gratified by the generous offer made to the Organization of African Unity by the Government of Burundi to host this regional conference in order to study all the aspects of this problem which is disrupting the plans and programmes for political stabilization of the Great Lakes region,

Gratified also by the dispatch of a mission headed by Ambassador Dillon to the region by the Secretary-General, which is designed to facilitate the preparation and holding of an international conference on the subregion's problems, and welcoming also the support given to this initiative by the Security Council in the statement of its President of 21 October 1994, 1/

Convinced that an agreed solution to the problems will help to ward off the spectre of the conflicts which have afflicted the region in general and Burundi in particular and would be an important step for peace, freedom, development and democracy,

1. Expresses profound satisfaction to the Government and people of Burundi for their commitment to national reconciliation and calls upon the parties concerned to continue their efforts to re-establish peace and democracy in the country;

2. Congratulates the political leaders of Burundi on the happy conclusion of the negotiations on the re-establishment of the normal functioning of

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institutions and urges all the parties to comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention of Governance signed on 10 September 1994 and its subsequent additional protocols;

3. Encourages the new coalition Government of Burundi to continue relentlessly to fight against warmongers and to disarm the people's militias and other extremist groups which are threatening the country's security;

4. Requests Member States, the bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide Burundians with:

(a) Assistance in the reconstruction of the country and emergency assistance for its social and economic recovery, the revitalization of the economy and the resumption of development;

(b) Support for the national programmes to restore confidence among the various elements of the Burundian people, especially by deploying civilian human rights observers to back up the local administration;

(c) Appropriate financial and technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of the country's judicial system in order to break the cycle of impunity and enable the Burundian authorities to bring to justice the perpetrators of the attempted coup d'état of October 1993 and of the subsequent ethnic massacres;

(d) Assistance in the dismantling of the secret pirate radio station "RUTOMORANGINGO", which is inciting ethnic hatred and violence, and of any other instrument of propaganda which is undermining the patient efforts to achieve national reconciliation;

5. Endorses fully the wish of the heads of State and Government of African countries to convene a regional conference for assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region;

6. Invites the competent bodies of the United Nations system to take part in the implementation of such an initiative;

7. Requests Member States to furnish generous assistance for the implementation of the initiative;

8. Expresses appreciation to all the States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which have provided emergency humanitarian assistance to Burundi since the beginning of the crisis and calls upon them to redouble their efforts during the forthcoming phase of reconstruction and economic recovery;

9. Invites the international community to become fully involved by providing substantial technical and financial support for the early implementation of the plan of action which will be produced by a regional conference;

10. Encourages the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to continue their efforts to normalize the situation in Burundi, which remains precarious and worrisome;

11. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to ensure the implementation of this resolution, and to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.